

Borough of Morecambe & Heysham

REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and the

Chief Public Health Inspector

- | | | |
|----|-------------------------|------------------|
| | Mr. Muston | B.415 |
| 1. | Dr. Didsbury | G.407 |
| 2. | Mr. Morley Parry | A.419 |
| 3. | Mr. Perry | A.405 |

1968



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HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE

His Worship the Mayor (Councillor W.H.Burgess)

Councillor L.Bolton (Chairman)
Councillor T.Langridge (Vice-Chairman)

Alderman E. Bell
Councillor N.Bolton Councillor J.Kay
Councillor G.G.Bryan Councillor J.F.McHale
Councillor W.V.Earnshaw Councillor L.P.Prada
Councillor A.Haworth Councillor K.H.Yewdall

HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF

Medical Officer of Health

J.V.Dyer, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (from 1st.
September, 1968)
R.W.Farquhar, M.B., D.P.H., B.Sc. (to 15th February, 1968)

Deputy Medical Officer of Health

W.R.Falconer, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector

S.A.Gibson, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector

R.Bain

Public Health Inspectors

T.H.Ashbrook P.Culshaw
A.L.Baxter T.Turton
J.J.Rooney (to 23rd June, 1968)

Student Public Health Inspector

D.Robinson

Clerical Staff

Mrs. W.Yeudall Mr. P.H.Lord

Disinfestation Operative 1 Rodent Operatives 2

Public Health Department,
Town Hall,
Morecambe and Heysham.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the Borough of Morecambe and Heysham.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present this Annual Report on the health and sanitary circumstances of the Borough for the year ending 31st December, 1968. The lay-out and contents follow the usual pattern and are in accordance with the Ministry Circular 1/69.

May I first express my pleasure at having been given the honour to be appointed as your Medical Officer of Health. We have a fine Borough and I hope that my service will continue the outstanding work of my two immediate devoted and well respected predecessors in this office.

Annual reports have an unfortunate tendency to be a boring collection of statistics, and so, understandably, the amount read is frequently in inverse proportion to the number of pages. Admitting this, I like to think that they serve two purposes - firstly, a historical record of the public health of the area in its widest sense; that is, anything connected with the health, happiness and service to the community, and secondly, spotlighting any defects in our service.

There was a natural decrease in population - an excess of deaths over births of 200. Nevertheless, the steady modest annual increase in population continued, due to immigration into the area. Being such a delightful town, it is one of the desirable retirement zones, and we have twice the national percentage of inhabitants of pensionable age and above. This results in an excess of problems of community care for the elderly, together with a shortage of younger people to offer that service.

The most frequent cause of death was Coronary artery disease, and other disorders of the heart and circulation. This is one of our present day epidemics, and is the object of intense research all over the world.

It was an epidemic year for Measles, and, we hope, the last. Immunisation against this infectious disease of childhood was introduced during the year, and well received by parents.

Being a relatively modern town, there is little old property requiring attention, and more of our time can be devoted to what is of overriding importance in a holiday resort, food hygiene; one can well imagine the effect on our major industry of the bad publicity which would follow an outbreak of food-borne infection. All notified cases and

contacts of food poisoning are meticulously pursued, a rigorous policy of sampling is maintained, and of course we are particularly proud of the fact that every carcass leaving our slaughterhouses has been examined and passed as fit for the housewife to purchase. At this stage it is appropriate to mention that yet again, no cow was found to have a tuberculous infection, demonstrating the effectiveness of the national bovine tuberculosis eradication scheme.

Brucellosis, a milk borne organism causing Undulant Fever, remains as yet uncontrolled, and it will be seen that over one quarter of raw milk samples gave evidence of infection. Great Britain has been late in tackling this, but a national register of Brucella-free herds is now being compiled, and it is hoped that we shall be rid of this disabling, and sometimes fatal, disease in the none-too-distant future.

Dr. Falconer and I acknowledge with sincerity, the continued conscientious work of our colleagues in the Health Department, and thank the Council for their support, interest and guidance in the field of Social and Preventive Medicine.

I have the honour to be, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J.V.DYER

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

OF THE BOROUGH

Area in acres (not including foreshore)	3,669
Population Census 1961	40,228
Number of inhabited houses - Census 1961	13,714
Registrar General's estimate of resident population (mid-year)	40,850
Number of	
(a) inhabited houses 1968 (according to rate books)	14,773
(b) shops, warehouses, licensed premises, entertainment and recreational premises etc.	2,888
Rateable value	£1,785,709
Sum represented by penny rate	£7,100

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

Principal Vital Statistics relating to Mothers and Infants

Total live births registered	514
Live birth rate per 1,000 est. population (crude)	12.6
Live birth rate per 1,000 est. population (adjusted)	15.9
Illegitimate live births as percentage of total live births	8.8
Total still births registered	7
Still birth rate per 1,000 <u>total</u> births	13
Total infant deaths (under one year) registered	9
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 <u>live</u> births	18
Neo-natal mortality (deaths under 4 weeks) rate per 1,000 <u>live</u> births	14
Early neo-natal mortality (deaths under 1 week) rate per 1,000 <u>live</u> births	10
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 <u>total</u> births	Nil
Perinatal mortality rate per 1,000 <u>total</u> births	23

Mid-Year	Estimated Home Population	Live Births		Deaths (all causes)	
		No. registered	Crude rate per 1,000 pop'n.	No. registered	Crude rate per 1,000 pop'n.
1968	40,850	514	12.6	711	17.4
1967	40,810	457	11.2	734	18.0
1966	40,740	509	12.5	693	17.0
1965	40,620	580	14.3	712	17.5
1964	40,570	537	13.2	715	17.6
1963	40,000	520	13.0	722	18.1
Average 5 years 1963-67			12.8		17.6

TABLE OF DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES

		<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
B5.	Tuberculosis of respiratory system	1	-	1
B17.	Syphilis and its sequelae	1	-	1
B18.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	1	1
B19(1)	Malignant neoplasm - stomach	12	6	18
B19(2)	Malignant neoplasm - lung, bronchus	25	2	27
B19(3)	Malignant neoplasm - breast	-	12	12
B19(4)	Malignant neoplasm - uterus	-	2	2
B19(5)	Leukaemia	-	2	2
B19(6)	Other malignant neoplasms, etc.	44	42	86
B20	Benign and unspecified neoplasms	-	1	1
B21	Diabetes mellitus	1	2	3
B46(1)	Other endocrine etc. diseases	1	2	3
B23	Anaemias	1	2	3
B46(3)	Mental disorders	1	-	1
B46(4)	Other diseases of nervous system, etc.	1	2	3
B26	Chronic rheumatic heart disease.	1	5	6
B27	Hypertensive disease	3	4	7
B28	Ischaemic heart disease	120	97	217
B29	Other forms of heart disease	12	12	24
B30	Cerebrovascular disease	37	75	112
B46(5)	Other diseases of circulatory system	22	15	37
B31	Influenza	1	4	5
B32	Pneumonia	17	14	31
B33(1)	Bronchitis and Emphysema	23	12	35
B33(2)	Asthma	3	2	5
B46(6)	Other diseases of respiratory system	4	-	4
B34	Peptic ulcer	5	2	7
B36	Intestinal obstruction and hernia	2	2	4
B46(7)	Other diseases of digestive system	1	7	8
B39	Hyperplasia of prostate	4	-	4
B46(8)	Other diseases, genito-urinary system	-	2	2
B46(10)	Diseases of musculo-skeletal system	-	2	2
B42	Congenital anomalies	3	2	5
B44	Other causes of perinatal mortality	-	3	3
B45	Symptoms and ill-defined conditions	-	7	7
BE47	Motor vehicle accidents	2	2	4
BE48	All other accidents	6	6	12
BE49	Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	3	1	4
BE50	All other external causes	2	-	2

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER
INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Visits and Disinfection

Visits of inquiry into notified cases	90
Revisits	1
Miscellaneous visits	3
Visits re disinfection	7
Premises disinfected	1
Articles disinfected	21
Rooms disinfected	7
Number of times steam disinfectant used	111
Number of library books disinfected	114
Visits to smallpox contacts	47
Ships cabins disinfected	1

Dysentery

Visits to suspected cases	226
Visits to Day Nursery	43
Specimens (faeces) examined	Positive 29
	Negative 583

Epidemic B.Coli

Specimens	Positive 1
	Negative 41

Salmonellae

Specimens	Positive 80
	Negative 600

Clostridium Welchii

Specimens	Positive 1
	Negative 7

Cases of Infectious Diseases Notified

Notifiable Disease	Total Cases Notified														Total deaths
	Total cases at all ages	Age Period - Years											Age unknown		
		0-	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	25 and over					
Measles (excluding rubella)	725	20	67	119	111	107	293	4	4						
Dysentery	25	2	4	3	1	1	5		2	7					
Scarlet Fever	31			1	1	2	18	8		1					
Diphtheria															
(A) - Meningococcal infection	1	1													
(B) - Acute meningitis															
Acute poliomyelitis - paralytic															
non-paralytic															
Acute encephalitis - Infective															
Post-infectious															
(A) - Acute pneumonia	8			1	2			1		4					
(B) - Leptospirosis															
Paratyphoid fever															
Typhoid fever															
Food poisoning	13	2		2	3			3		3					
(A) - Erysipelas															
(A) - Puerperal pyrexia															
(B) - Tetanus															
(C) - Infective jaundice	6				2	1	2		1						
Tuberculosis - Respiratory	10					3	1	1	1	2	2			1	
Meninges and C.N.S.	1			1											
Other	1						1								
Whooping cough	10	1	1	5	3										
Others (specify)															
Number of cases of fatal tuberculosis not notified before death															
(A) - Notified to 30th September, 1968. (B) - Notified from 1st October, 1968. (C) - Notified from 1st June, 1968.														Total 1	

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

against Poliomyelitis, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus and Measles

Children resident in the District

	Primary - by Year of Birth							Reinforcement - by Year of Birth						
	1968	1967	1966	1965	1961 - 64	Others under 16	Total	1968	1967	1966	1965	1961 - 64	Others under 16	Total
Children protected against:-														
Diphtheria	170	193	9	9	10	2	393	4	87	201	18	340	190	840
Whooping Cough	167	186	9	7	6	-	375	4	81	187	14	43	12	341
Tetanus	170	193	9	9	10	8	399	4	87	200	19	341	191	842
Poliomyelitis	139	286	32	11	24	3	495	1	4	26	4	350	21	406
Measles	6	65	82	54	156	4	367	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

TUBERCULOSIS

New cases of mortality

	<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Meninges and C.N.S.</u>		<u>Other</u>	
	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 5 years	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 14 years	-	-	-	1	-	-
15 - 44 years	4	1	-	-	-	1
45 - 64 years	2	1	-	-	-	-
65 and over	2	-	-	-	-	-
Total (all ages)	8	2	-	1	-	1

Eleven years' table of Notifications and Deaths from Tuberculosis

Pulmonary Tuberculosis

<u>Year</u>	<u>Cases Notified</u>		<u>Deaths</u>	
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
1958	16	6	-	-
1959	14	8	4	-
1960	12	5	4	-
1961	9	3	2	1
1962	12	12	4	1
1963	6	3	4	1
1964	5	1	2	-
1965	12	6	1	1
1966	2	4	-	-
1967	7	5	3	-
1968	8	2	1	-

Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis

<u>Year</u>	<u>Cases Notified</u>		<u>Deaths</u>	
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
1958	1	-	-	1
1959	1	3	-	-
1960	-	2	-	-
1961	2	2	1	-
1962	1	2	-	-
1963	1	1	-	-
1964	-	4	-	-
1965	-	1	-	1
1966	3	-	-	-
1967	-	1	-	-
1968	-	2	-	-

VENEREAL DISEASES

Treatment of patients suffering from venereal disease is given at the Royal Lancaster Infirmary.

The figures in the following table were kindly supplied by Dr. J.F. MacKay.

	<u>Non-Venereal Conditions</u>	<u>Gonorrhoea</u>	<u>Syphilis</u>	<u>Total cases</u>
Males	29	16	2	47
Females	12	2	1	15
Totals	41	18	3	62

FOOD POISONING

TABLE I. Incidents and Cases

	General Outbreaks		Family Outbreaks No.	Sporadic Cases	Total Outbreaks	Total Cases
	No.	Cases				
S. Typhimurium			1	2	1	2
Other Salmonella	1	5			1	5
Cl. Welchii				1	1	1
Total	1	5	1	2	3	8

Food Poisoning due to Salmonella other than Typhimurium

Oranienburg	1	5			1	5
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TABLE II. Salmonella Infections (Not Food Borne)

Other Salmonella				5	5	5
------------------	--	--	--	---	---	---

Infections due to Salmonella other than Typhimurium (Not Food Borne)

Derby				1		1
Enteriditis				2		2
Virchow O7R				2		2

Number of visits: 228 Specimens examined: Negative 607 (See also page 60)
Positive 81

WATER SUPPLY

Supply:

There were no changes during the year in the source of supply.

Special comments

24" feed main to Morecambe commissioned in November.
 Scraping and Lining. 12" Lancaster Road to Euston Road
 main completed November.
 12" Heysham main completed May.

Service extensions

The following extensions and renewals of services were made during the year.

Extensions:

	<u>Diameter</u>	<u>Yards</u>
Altham Road	(6"	252
	(4"	9
Ashfield Avenue	4"	45
Cyprus Road	4"	69
Foxfield Avenue	4"	100
Fulwood Drive	6"	63
Gringley Road	6"	107
Haydock Grove	3"	105
Helmside Avenue	4"	112
Heron Drive	4"	10
Hexham Avenue	4"	41
Heysham Road (Battery)	(6"	11
	(3"	4
High Court	3"	27
Kingsdale Avenue	4"	60
Lancaster Road (Torrisholme)	4"	177
Lancaster Road	4"	290
Lancaster Road to Broadway	6"	14
Leamington Road	4"	71
Levens Drive	4"	50
	(8"	102
Northgate (White Lund)	(6"	6
	(3"	20
	(4"	144
Oxcliffe Road	(3"	45
Oxcliffe Road to Westgate	15"	427
Oxcliffe Avenue	3"	67
Sandside Drive	4"	62
	(3"	1
White Lund Depot	(4"	1
Wyndham Place	3"	60

Renewals:

Arnside Crescent	6"	9
Eardley Road	4"	220
	(6"	360
Fairfield Road	(4"	9

Grosvenor Road	4"	66
Hestham Avenue	4"	8
Heysham Road	4"	463
Longlands Avenue	4"	258
Middleton Road	6"	198
St. Patrick's Walk	4"	152
Wilson Grove	4"	33

The purity of the water, checked by bacteriological and chemical analysis, was, on the whole, satisfactory. There was at all times continuous chlorination of all water leaving the two filter houses.

In addition to the 17 examinations carried out by the supplying authority, 214 samples were submitted by the department for bacteriological examination.

Classification:

Grade 1	-	205	% satisfactory	-	96
Grade 2	-	9		1967	- 95

Number of visits made	257
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Typical routine chemical and bacteriological analyses of the water are shown in the following tables:-

Chemical examination:

Number of samples taken	20
By supplying authority	4

	<u>Morecambe</u>	<u>Heysham</u>
	(parts per million)	
Total solids in solution	100	72
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate solution in 3 hours	0.20	0.16
Ammonia	Nil	Nil
Albuminoid ammonia	0.01	0.01
Nitrite nitrogen	Nil	Nil
Nitrate nitrogen	0.49	0.25
Combined chlorine	12	11
Free chlorine	0.01	0.02
Carbonate hardness	42	13
Non-carbonate hardness	20	23
Total hardness	62	36
pH. value	7.8	7.3
Copper	0.03	Nil
Lead	Nil	Nil
Zinc	Nil	Nil
Iron	0.10	0.22
Colour (Hazen units)	5.0	4
Fluorine	0.040	-

Comment:

The results of the analysis indicate that the sample is moderately soft water free from animal pollution. Subject to satisfactory bacteriological reports, the supply may be accepted as wholesome. The amounts of copper and iron found were insignificant in comparison with the recommended maximum limits for those metals in drinking water. The amount of fluorine found is typical of amounts found occurring naturally in upland surface waters in this district, and is approximately one twenty-fifth of the recommended optimum amount for addition to waters for the reduction of dental caries.

Heysham Harbour: (Vessels)

Number of bacteriological samples taken	114
% satisfactory	84
Number of chemical samples	Nil

Two of the 11 ships tested showed unsatisfactory supplies of water throughout. One was given special treatment of the tanks and pipe lines and when sampled again was perfectly satisfactory. The second ship left this area, and the bacteriological report accompanied the master to the new port. Allowing for the samples taken on board these two ships, the percentage of satisfactory water reads 100%.

Bacterial Contents of Drinking Water (Dwelling houses)

<u>Identity</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Coliform Bacilli</u> <u>per 100 c.c.</u>	<u>Bact. coli</u> <u>per 100 c.c.</u>
28	15th Jany.	0	0
114	5th Feby.	0	0
455	7th May	0	0
626	10th June	0	0
918	5th Aug.	0	0
1138	4th Oct.	0	0
1686	25th Nov.	0	0

The following figures give the consumption for the past 10 years.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Morecambe</u>	<u>Heysham</u>
1959	506,321,000 galls.	178,996,000 galls.
1960	525,665,000 "	200,506,000 "
1961	549,542,000 "	209,639,000 "
1962	817,121,000 galls.	
1963	811,469,000 "	
1964	841,829,000 "	
1965	901,402,000 "	
1966	916,885,000 "	
1967	862,985,000 "	
1968	808,029,000 "	

Daily consumption in 1968 - 2,219,000 galls.

I am obliged to the Engineer and Manager of the Lune Valley Water Board for the supply of some of the statistics referred to.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

I am indebted to the Borough Surveyor for the following information:-

The two main drainage areas closely follow the boundaries of the old Borough of Morecambe, and Heysham U.D.C., which existed prior to the amalgamation in 1928.

Morecambe Drainage Area:

The sewerage and sewage disposal arrangements in this area are adequate following completion of a main drainage scheme at a cost of £2,600,000 in 1959. Additional minor works have been found necessary since that time. The construction of a 30" diameter sewer between Arnside Crescent and Calton Terrace is approaching completion. The purpose of this scheme is to prevent flooding of properties and provide drainage facilities for future development in the area concerned.

Heysham Drainage Area:

Flooding of properties has occurred throughout the area at times of intensive rainfall for a number of years, and has now reached serious proportions.

The Consulting Engineers appointed by the Corporation to prepare a main drainage scheme to overcome the problems in this area have completed their preliminary investigations. Discussions of their draft proposals will be the subject of meetings to be held with the Ministry and the various other Authorities concerned in the near future.

The estimated cost of the proposals, which include the construction of a sewage disposal works, is in the region of £2,250,000.

Dykes and Watercourses:

All main watercourses were cleared and graded during the year. Tidal flaps were regularly inspected and repaired, whilst spraying with approved insecticide was carried out at appropriate times.

HOUSING

Housing needs:

The names on the Housing Officer's list of those living in rooms at the end of the year represented the following family groups:-

	<u>1968</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1966</u>
Families of 2 (i.e. without children) or single persons	311	355	310
Families of 3 or more (i.e. with 1 or more children)	84	32	102

Progress of schemes:

	<u>Houses</u>	<u>Flats</u>
Number of new dwellings erected during the year:-		
By the local authority	Nil	
By other local authorities	Nil	Nil
By other bodies or persons	111	26

Total number of dwellings owned by the local authority at end of
year - 1215

Local Authority schemes:

Two blocks of 4 flats were erected during the year for use as
aged persons dwellings.

Houses in Multiple Occupation:

Number of houses known	375
Number of houses estimated to need attention	89
Number of notices served	1

Details regarding separate occupancies in houses in multiple occupation:

Number of houses with following number of separate occupancies	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	over 12
	31	143	78	58	22	16	9	5	3	4	2	4

Sub-standard houses:

In November 1967 the Council authorised that a preliminary
survey of sub-standard housing accommodation be undertaken with a
view to the preparation of a list of such properties as may warrant
action under the provisions of the Housing Acts, and to provide
factual information relevant to the planning of an effective housing
programme for the future.

Number of visits to inspect	135
-----------------------------	-----

Houses in which defects were remedied:-

After informal action by local authority (By owner)	69
After informal action, by local authority	505
After formal notice under the Public Health Acts	4

Unfit houses made fit:-

After informal action by local authority (By owner) 3

Inspections:

Housing Acts:

Visits	477
Houses inspected	143
Houses reinspected	51
Houses in multiple occupation	80
Underground rooms	2
Revisits	50
Miscellaneous	151
Informal notices	3
Formal notices	Nil

Public Health Acts:

Houses inspected	982
Houses reinspected	418

Improvement Grants:

Housing Act, 1949, and Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958:

Action during year:

Number of dwelling houses
or other buildings
affected in schemes of:

	<u>Private bodies or individuals</u>	<u>Local Authority</u>
(i) submitted by private individuals	9	-
(ii) approved by local authority	9	-
(iii) submitted to Minister	9	-
(iv) approved by Minister	9	-
(v) work completed	7	-
(vi) additional separate dwellings	-	-
(vii) any other action	-	-

Standard Grants:

House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959 and Housing Acts, 1961 and 1964:

Action during year:		Number of dwellings or other buildings affected
(i)	applications submitted to local authority for improvement to	
	(a) full standard	13
	(b) reduced standard	12
(ii)	applications approved	
	(a) full standard	13
	(b) reduced standard	12
(iii)	work completed	24
(iv)	compulsory improvement	-

Rent Act, 1957:

Applications for certificates of disrepair	1
Notice of intention to issue certificates	Nil
Certificates issued	Nil
Certificates cancelled	Nil
Undertakings given by landlords	Nil
Visits	5
Revisits	2
Interviews	3

Houses in Clearance Areas and Unfit Houses elsewhere

Annual Return

A.	Houses Demolished	<u>Displaced</u>		
		<u>Houses</u> <u>Demolished</u>	<u>C</u> <u>Persons</u>	<u>D</u> <u>Families</u>
In or adjoining Clearance Areas:				
	Houses unfit for human habitation	-	-	-
	Houses included by reason of bad arrangements, etc.	-	-	-
	Houses on land acquired under Section 43 (2) Housing Act, 1957	-	-	-

Not in or adjoining Clearance Areas:

As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 16 or 17 (1) Housing Act, 1957	-	-	-
Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health	-	-	-
Houses unfit for human habitation where action has been taken under local Acts	-	-	-
Unfit houses included in Unfitness Orders	-	-	-
Number of dwellings included above which were previously reported as closed	-	-	-

B. Unfit Houses Closed

Under Section 16(4), 17(1) and 35(1) Housing Act, 1957	-	-	-
Under Section 17(3) and 26, Housing Act, 1957	-	-	-
Parts of buildings closed under Section 18, Housing Act, 1957	-	-	-

E. Unfit Houses Made Fit

	<u>By Owner</u>	<u>By L.A.</u>
After informal action by local authority	3	-
After formal notice under		
(a) Public Health Acts	-	-
(b) Sections 9 and 16 Housing Act, 1957	-	-
Under Sections 24 and 27 Housing Act, 1957	-	-

F. Houses in which defects were remedied after formal notice under Public Health Acts 4

G. Unfit Houses in Temporary Use (Housing Act, 1957) Nil

H. Purchase of Houses by Agreement Nil

PORT HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

The general administrative arrangements were unchanged and the usual work was satisfactorily carried out.

There were 85 vessels from foreign ports, and there were no cases of infectious disease landed from any vessel.

Number of visits to Heysham Harbour	90
* Number of beasts examined	91
* Number of sheep examined	-
* Number of pigs examined	-
Number of visits to slaughterhouse	42
Number of visits re food inspection	1
Number of visits re water supply	47
Number of water samples taken	114

* also included in figure ante page 55

Section I - Staff

Table A

Name of Officer	Nature of Appointment	Date of Appointment	Qualifications	Any other appointments held
R.W.Farquhar	Port Medical Officer	to 15.2.1968	B.Sc. (Agric.) Ch.B., D.P.H.	Medical Officer of Health
W.R.Falconer	Deputy Port Medical Officer	1.7.1967	M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.	Deputy Medical Officer of Health
J.V.Dyer	Port Medical Officer	1.9.1968	M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.	Medical Officer of Health

Address and telephone number of the Medical Officer of Health:-

Public Health Department, Town Hall, Morecambe and Heysham -
Telephone: Morecambe 720

	<u>Goods Cargo</u>	<u>Bunker Coal</u>	
	<u>Tons</u>	<u>Tons</u>	<u>Total Tons</u>
Belfast	236,139	264	236,403
Chemical Fertilisers	5,544		5,544
Liquified Ammonia Gas:			
Foreign	23,002		23,002
Coastwise	29,784		29,784
Oil:			
Foreign	6,412		6,412
Coastwise	320,656		320,656
Dublin	441		441

Livestock - Imports and Exports

Imports:

	<u>Horses</u>	<u>Cattle</u>	<u>Sheep</u>	<u>Pigs</u>	<u>Others</u>
Belfast	514	32,360	-	61	253
Dublin	-	3,541	-	-	-
Londonderry	-	782	-	-	-

Exports:

Belfast	90	47	3	46	4
---------	----	----	---	----	---

Principal ports from which ships arrive: Belfast, Londonderry and ports around Suez and Persian Gulf.

Section IV - Inland barge traffic

Nil

Section V - Water supply

- Source of supply for (a) the district, and (b) shipping.
Town supply for both (Lune Valley Water Board).
- Report of tests for contamination.
Bacteriological and chemical satisfactory.
- Precautions taken against contamination of hydrants and hosepipes.
Usual.
- Number and sanitary condition of water boats, and powers of control by the Local Authority.
None employed.

Section VI - Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1952/1963

- List of Infected Areas (Regulation 6).

Arrangements for the preparation and amendment of the list, the form of the list, the persons to whom it is supplied, and the procedure of supplying it to those persons.

The weekly record of infected areas supplied by the World Health Organisation is forwarded to the Waterguard Office for the information of Customs Officers and copy retained by Medical Officer.

2. Radio Messages.

(a) Arrangements for sending permission by radio for ships to enter the district (Regulation 13).

Not ordinarily needed but arrangements have been made for messages to be given immediately by Railway Executive and Shipping Agent to Waterguard Office.

(b) Arrangements for receiving messages by radio from ships and for acting thereon. (Regulation 14(1) and (2)).

See notes to (a) above.

3. Notifications Otherwise Than By Radio (Regulation 14(1)(b)).

Arrangements for receiving notifications otherwise than by radio and for acting thereon.

This is usually received by the Customs Officer and handed later to the Local Authority.

4. Mooring Stations (Regulations 22 to 30).

Situation of stations, any standing directions issued under these Regulations.

(a) Inner Mooring - for cases of smallpox and typhus

(i) West wall inside Harbour - small ships.

(ii) Ocean Jetty end - large ships.

(b) Outer Mooring - for cases of cholera, yellow fever and plague (at Lune Deep).

Standing Exemptions

(a) All ordinary notifiable infectious diseases other than those specified above.

(b) Ships otherwise clean, which have arrived from a listed port in an infected area.

5. Arrangements for

(a) Hospital accommodation for infectious diseases (other than smallpox - see Section VII).

An infectious diseases hospital at Lancaster is available for all cases except smallpox. For smallpox cases the Regional Hospital Board will make arrangements.

(b) Surveillance and follow up of contacts.

A contact under surveillance and resident in the Borough would be visited daily during the incubation period of the disease. A contact moving outside the Borough would be instructed to visit the Health Department of the area to which he was moving and the Medical Officer of Health of that area would be notified to expect his arrival and given his proposed address.

(c) Cleansing and disinfection of ships, persons, clothing and other articles.

A steam disinfecter is provided for bedding and clothing.

Appliances and materials are available for the disinfecting of ships and this would be carried out by the Health Department staff.

Section VII - Smallpox

1. Name of Isolation Hospital to which smallpox cases are sent from the district.

Regional Hospital Board will make arrangements.

2. Arrangements for transport of such cases to that hospital by ambulance giving the name of the Authority responsible for the ambulance and vaccinal state of ambulance crews.

A special motor ambulance is available with attendants.

3. Name(s) of smallpox (consultant(s) available.

Dr.A.G.Ironside, Monsall Hospital, Manchester.

4. Facilities for laboratory diagnosis of smallpox.

Either the suspect would be immediately removed to the hospital designated by the Regional Hospital Board and the laboratory investigation undertaken from there, or the material would be sent to the laboratory chosen by the smallpox consultant, probably Liverpool.

Section VIII - Venereal Diseases

Information as to the location, days and hours of the available facilities for the diagnosis and treatment of venereal disease among merchant seamen under international arrangements, including in-patient treatment and the steps taken to make these facilities known to seamen.

No special arrangement for sailors. There is a clinic at the Royal Lancaster Infirmary.

Section IX - Cases of notifiable and other infectious diseases on ships

Table D - Nil return

Section X - Observations on the occurrence of malaria in ships

Nil return

Section XI - Measures taken against ships infected with or suspected of plague

None needed

Section XII - Measures taken against rodents in ships from foreign ports

1. Procedure for inspection of ships for rats.

Ships with expired certificates sent to Barrow.

2. Arrangements for the bacteriological or pathological examination of rodents, with special reference to rodent plague, including the number of rodents sent for examination during the year.

Submitted to pathologist ordinarily employed by the Public Health Authority. Usually the pathologist attached to the Public Health Laboratory, Preston. No rodents sent.

3. Arrangements in the district for deratting ships, the method used, and, if done by a commercial contractor, the name of the contractor.

Not carried out.

4. Progress in the rat-proofing of ships.

Not carried out.

Table E

Rodents destroyed during the year in ships from foreign ports.

Not known

Table F

Deratting certificates and Deratting Exemption certificates issued during the year for ships from foreign ports.

Nil

Section XIII - Inspection of ships for nuisances

Table G

Inspections and Notices

Number of informal notices served	Nil
Remedied	Nil

Vessels boarded - no action necessary

Section XIV - Public Health (Shell-fish) Regulations, 1934 and 1948

Information respecting any shell-fish beds or laying within the jurisdiction of the Authority stating whether they are, in the opinion of the Medical Officer of Health, liable to pollution. A report of any action taken, which should state whether any prohibited area has been prescribed, should be included.

Under the Heysham and Morecambe Bay (Shell-fish) Regulations, 1926, an area of Morecambe Bay was prescribed and any mussels taken from this area must be subject to an approved process of cleansing or sterilisation before being made available for human consumption. The cleansing process is carried out at Portmadoc, North Wales.

No further action under the Public Health (Shell-fish) Regulations, 1934 and 1948 has been necessary.

Section XV - Medical Inspection of Aliens (applicable only to ports approved for the landing of aliens)

Nil - Not a port approved for the landing of aliens.

Section XVI - Miscellaneous

Arrangements for the burial on shore of persons who have died on board ship from infectious diseases.

By arrangement with local undertaker for cremation.

LABORATORY AND HOSPITAL FACILITIES

Laboratory investigations are carried out by Dr.L.Robertson and his staff at the Public Health Laboratory, Preston, and samples taken in accordance with the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, are analysed by the Public Analyst, Mr. A.C.Bushnell of Preston. To Dr.Robertson and Mr.Bushnell, I am grateful for the guidance and help that they are always so willing to give.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1946 - SECTION 47

Although there are many elderly people living in this Borough, the provisions of this Act for the removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention are such as one would hope to avoid having to use.

Up till now it has always been possible to make for elderly people found living alone in somewhat precarious circumstances, arrangements less distressing for them than the measure that the Act provides.

TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS

The Tuberculosis and Venereal Diseases Clinics are administered by the Regional Hospital Board, and the School and Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics by the County Council.

Public Health Department,
Town Hall,
Morecambe and Heysham.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present to you my Annual Report on the sanitary circumstances of the Borough during 1968.

In June, the department lost the services of Mr. J. J. Rooney who resigned to take up another appointment. The inability to fill the vacancy resulted in a review of the work and establishment of the inspectorate by the Health and Housing Committee. Mr. T. H. Ashbrook, after nearly 50 years service with this Authority, retired in December; we extend to him our sincere good wishes for his future welfare. It is gratifying to report on the continued progress of our pupil public health inspector to whom we wish every success in his final year.

Our long association with the College of Further Education in the teaching of food hygiene came to an end during the year owing to changes in the sessional times of vocational courses. This is to be regretted, but priority must be given to the effective discharge of the statutory functions of the department.

The establishment in November of a modern poultry slaughterhouse and processing depot in the Borough, and the increased throughput at the slaughterhouses in the number of animals slaughtered for human food, stresses the importance which must be attached to the inspection of food and the supervision of food premises in a town whose major industry is that of catering. Whilst there were no significant changes in legislation, the following pages give some indication of the variety of duties undertaken by your inspectorate, in addition to the routine work, which, although unspectacular, is essential in the promotion of public health.

I wish to record my thanks and appreciation to the Chairman and members of the Health and Housing Committee for their unfailing support, to Dr. J. V. Dyer and Dr. W. R. Falconer for their kindness and interest in our problems, and to my colleagues in other departments for their co-operation and the provision of information for inclusion in this report.

Finally, my sincere thanks are due to every member of the staff, whose team work in a year of change has been most praiseworthy; without their work this report would be a very scanty affair.

I have the honour to be, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

SPENCER A. GIBSON

Chief Public Health Inspector

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936

Inspections:

Visits re complaints	982
Defects discovered	701
Defects abated	578
Referred to other departments	303
Revisits	418
Miscellaneous visits	388
Informal notices served	35
Abatement notices served	4
Visits to schools	2
Visits to licensed premises	7
Visits to entertainment premises	5
Visits to business premises	14
Visits to undeveloped land	2
Visits to contractors	37
Interviews	926

Summary of work done:

Drains choked	488
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(Many of the drains included in the above are properly named "Sewers" as they serve more than one building and legally are maintained either privately or by the Council doing the work at the expense of the owners served. They are classified as drains in this summary to distinguish them from the Council's sewers).

Drains defective	10
Sewer choked	1
Gully defective	11
Gully top badly set	1
W.C. choked	12
W.C. seat broken	2
W.C. defective	1
Inspection chamber cover broken	2
Waste pipe choked	1
R.W.downspout broken	1
Eavesgutter broken	1
Roof leaking	2
Walls, penetrating dampness	2
Walls, defective pointing	1
Walls, rising dampness	7
Ceiling plaster perished	1
Windows, perished woodwork	1
Window putties and glazing defective	1
Water pipe burst	5
Water in cellar	30
Offensive smell in premises	14
Flooded area	6
Water over site and under floor	7
Accumulation of refuse	41

Drainage:

Visits (existing drainage)	542
Revisits	149
Visits (new or proposed)	2
Visits (public sewers)	6
Revisits	13
Drains tested	104
Informal notices	15
Formal notices	2

Supply of dust bins:

Visits	1
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Stables and Piggeries:

Visits	27
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Disinfestations:

Number of verminous houses inspected	5
Number of verminous houses reinspected	3
Number of verminous houses disinfested	2
Wasps nests destroyed	53
Number of premises treated for insects	119
Number of visits by inspectors	25

Offensive trades:

There is only one in the Borough, that of gut scraping, which was satisfactorily conducted.

Number of visits	29
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Keeping of animals:

Visits	16
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Dykes and watercourses:

Number of visits	23
Number of samples examined	2

Closet accommodation:

Number of houses not on water carriage system	Nil
Number of fresh water closets	18,000 approx.
Number of waste water closets	13
Number of middens	Nil
Number of closets attached to middens	Nil
Number of dry ashpits (excluding middens)	Nil
Number of moveable ashbins	22,000 approx.
Number of houses with septic tanks or cesspools	21

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

Number of visits	96
Number of observations	58
Number of informal notices	7

RIDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1964

Number of visits by veterinary surgeons	4
Number of riding establishments	4

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

This Act regulates the sale of pet animals, and provides that no person shall keep a pet shop except under the authority of a licence granted by the Local Authority.

The conditions of the licence include:-

- (a) That animals will at all times be kept in accommodation suitable as respects size, temperature, lighting, ventilation and cleanliness.
- (b) Food and drink supply must be adequate.
- (c) That animals will not be sold at too early an age.
- (d) That precautions will be taken to prevent the spread among animals of infectious disease.
- (e) That appropriate steps will be taken in case of fire or other emergency.

Number of premises licensed	6
Number of visits	12

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963

Number of premises on register	1
Number of visits	4

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

Number of premises registered	8
Number of visits	Nil

SCRAP METAL DEALERS ACT, 1964

Number of visits	1
Number on register	29

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960

Since the introduction of the Noise Abatement Act, 1960, unnecessary or unreasonable noise has been made a statutory nuisance, and the power to abate such nuisances has been delegated to health committees. Local authorities are charged under the Public Health Act, 1936, with the responsibility of seeing that their district is inspected from time to time for the detection of statutory nuisances.

This Act is not an easy one to enforce as the measurement of noise, and the interpretation of results, is very complex.

Number of complaints	13
Number of visits	46
Number of revisits	49
Number of miscellaneous visits	1
Number of observations	61
Number of informal notices served	3

CAMPING SITES

Visits to licensed sites	79
Visits to unlicensed sites	41
Visits to proposed sites	Nil
Number of site licences	8
Number of caravans permanently occupied	190
Number of caravans concerned in site licences	1011 *
Number of tent licences	1
* Private	649
* Municipal	300
* Municipal (Tourers)	62

Municipal Camp:

1663 caravans used the site during the year; of these, 250 holiday caravans and 50 residential, were sites for the full season. 128 paid the additional fee for the privilege of sub-letting. 1363 used the site for short periods and 247 caravans were left on the site for winter storage. These figures show a considerable increase over any previous year.

The following tabulation shows the yearly increase in touring caravans visiting the municipal site.

1959	212
1960	308
1961	358
1962	336
1963	343
1964	464
1965	644
1966	719
1967	1030
1968	1363

Tenting:

There is one licensed tent site in the Borough which was in continuous use during the season. New toilets were erected before the start of the season.

SHOPS ACT, 1950 and YOUNG PERSONS (EMPLOYMENT) ACT, 1938

During the year, 52 visits were made to shops and other similar premises.

The visits, as in previous years, show a decrease on earlier years as the Council now have no full-time shops inspector. One of the public health inspectors was appointed as shops inspector and all complaints have been attended to.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

Registration and General Inspections:

<u>Class of Premises</u>	<u>Premises newly registered during year</u>	<u>Registered premises at end of year</u>	<u>Registered premises receiving general inspection during year</u>
Offices	13	114	35
Retail shops	19	398	105
Wholesale departments, Warehouses	1	25	6
Catering establishments open to the public, Canteens	3	110	8
Fuel storage depots	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	36	647	154

Number of visits of all kinds (including general inspections) to registered premises 520

Analysis of persons employed in registered premises by workplaces:

<u>Class of workplace</u>	<u>Number of persons employed</u>
Offices	737
Retail shops	1412
Wholesale departments, Warehouses	120
Catering establishments open to the public	1371
Canteens	6
Fuel storage depots	Nil
Total	3646
Total males: 1202	Total females: 2444

Analysis of Contraventions:

<u>Sections</u>		<u>Number of contraventions found</u>
4	Cleanliness	9
5	Overcrowding	Nil
6	Temperature	35
7	Ventilation	1
8	Lighting	Nil
9	Sanitary conveniences	18
10	Washing facilities	17
11	Supply of drinking water	1
12	Clothing accommodation	Nil
13	Sitting facilities	Nil
14	Seats (Sedentary workers)	Nil
15	Eating facilities	Nil
16	Floors, passages and stairs	21
17	Fencing exposed parts of machinery	5
18	Protection from dangerous machinery	Nil
19	Training with dangerous machinery	Nil
23	Prohibition of heavy work	Nil
24	First aid	34
50	Abstract	44
Total		185

Reported accidents

Workplace	Reported		Total invest- igated	Action taken			
	Fatal	Non Fatal		Prose- cution	Formal warning	Informal advice	No Action
Offices							
Retail shops		6	6			3	3
Wholesale shops Warehouses							
Catering estab- lishments open to public, canteens			6				
Fuel storage depots							
Totals		6	6			3	3

Analysis of reported accidents

	Offices	Retail shops	Whole- sale ware- houses	Catering es- tablishments open to pub- lic, canteens	Fuel storage depots
Falls of persons		2			
Machinery		2			
Struck by falling object		2			

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Number of	
			Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	11	7	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	161	98	4	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	3	3	-	-
Total	175	108	4	-

2. Cases in which defects were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)	-	-	-	-	-
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	8	6	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to out-work)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	8	6	-	-	-
Outworkers: Dresses 1 Knitting 2					
Visits 3					

RODENT CONTROL

Visits by rodent operators	2500
Premises visited	1115
Visits by inspectors	20
Vessels examined - Rodent Control Certificate	22

Rodent control in sewers:

Maintenance treatments of sewer manholes were continued in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Agriculture. 65 manholes were treated with the following results:-

Number of manholes showing direct poison bait take	Complete	4
	Partial	1

In the following table the work done during the year is analysed.

	<u>Type of Property</u>	
	<u>Non- Agricultural</u>	<u>Agricultural</u>
<u>Properties other than sewers:</u>		
1. Number of properties in district	17,551	42
2. (a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	1,677	10
(b) Number infested by (i) Rats	112	1
(ii) Mice	175	-
3. (a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification.	1,598	366
(b) Number infested by (i) Rats	70	44
(ii) Mice	90	1

Sewers:

4. Were any sewers infested by rats during the year	YES
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Surface properties and sewers:

5. Any other points of interest?	NONE
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INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD
AND FOOD PREMISES

Number of food premises, by type of business, in the district at end of year:

<u>Type of Business</u>	<u>No.</u>
Boarding houses	1960 approx.
Restaurant kitchens	300 approx.
Grocers	107
Greengrocers	38
Fishmongers	23
Butchers	47
Fried fish shops	33
Offensive trades	1
Shops selling mainly sugar confectionery, minerals, ice-cream etc.	110
Shrimp pickers	35
Licensed premises, clubs, canteens, restaurants, cafes, snack bars and similar catering establishments	2200 approx.
Bakehouses	30

Number of food premises, by type, registered under S.16 of the Food and Drugs Act or under local Acts.

<u>Type of Business</u>	<u>No. registered</u>	<u>No. of inspections of registered premises during the year.</u>
Fish friers	32	55
Sausages, potted, pressed, pickled and preserved food plus fish frying	56	137
Potted food (shrimp picking)	34	41
Ice-cream (sale and storage)	213	168
Ice-cream (manufacture only)	11	65
Food stores, food hawkers under the L.C.C. (General Powers) Act	8	19

Special examination of food stocks or consignments during year:

Refrigeration failure	3
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FOOD PREMISES

* Inspection:

Bakehouses	58
Restaurant kitchens and snack bars	197
Food preparation premises (registered)	137
Fish friers	55
Food stores	22
Proposed food premises	54
School kitchens	2
Holiday camps	2
Canteens	7
Stalls	163
Markets	54
Licensed premises	14
Miscellaneous	297
Shrimp picking premises	41
Boarding houses	109
Vehicles	17
Contractors	2
Informal notices and verbal warnings	238
Interviews	198

There are 37 bakehouses on the register, 30 in use and 7 not in use.

* Excluding those visits listed separately.

Contraventions discovered:

Premises:

Dirty or defective equipment	20
Food exposed to contamination	2
Lack of personal cleanliness	5
Defective drainage	3
Defective or inadequate sanitary conveniences	14
Dirty sanitary conveniences	1
Inadequate cold water supply	2
(Inadequate hot water supply	4
(Inadequate wash hand basins	30
(Absence of soap, nail brushes etc.	5
(Inadequate sinks	1
(Inadequate hot water supply	1
Absence of first aid equipment	2
Outdoor clothing in food room	5
Inadequate lighting	6
Inadequate ventilation	1
Defective construction of food rooms	19
Lack of cleanliness of food rooms	91
Inadequate refuse accommodation	10
Smoking whilst preparing food	3
Animals in food rooms	13
Insect infestations	3

Stalls:

Absence of name and address	4
Inadequate screening	1
Inadequate water supply	1
Inadequate hot water supply	1
Absence of wash hand basin	2
Absence of first aid kit	1

Delivery vehicles:

Defective vehicle floor	1
Absence of head covering and overalls	1

Registered Premises:

	Register 1.1.68	Transfers	Additions	Deletions	Register 31.12.68
1. Fish friers	33	4	-	1	32
2. Sausages, pressed, potted, pickled and preserved food	54	5	3	1	56
3. Sausages, pressed, potted, pickled and preserved food plus fried fish	2	-	-	1	1
4. Potted (shrimp picking)	32	-	2	-	34
Total	121	9	5	3	123

MILK DISTRIBUTION

<u>Register</u>	<u>Distributors</u>	<u>Dairies</u>
Total on Register 1.1.68	127	16
Transfers	12	-
Deletions	5	4
Additions	8	-
Total on Register 31.12.68	130	12

Distributors

Producer Distributors	2
Distributors	12
Distributors from shops	93
Distributors from dairies	13
Distributors (machine only)	1
Distributors (dispenser)	9
	<hr/>
	130
"Incomers" (not registered)	28
	<hr/>
	158

Licences

Number of dealers licences in force at end of year
in respect of:-

Untreated milk	1
Pre-packed milk	102

Number of dealers authorised to deal in milk of
following designations:-

Untreated	52
Pasteurised	82
Sterilised	72
Ultra heat treated	1

Visits and Inspections

Distributors	563
Dairies	82
Farms (Food and Drugs Act only)	3
Bottling establishments (other than plant)	1
Bacteriological sampling	237
Day Nursery	4
Complaints received	11

Bacteriological examination

231 samples of milk were taken or purchased involving some 500 separate tests at the Public Health Laboratory, Preston, under the direction of Dr.L.A.Robertson.

192 samples were heat treated and 39 raw milk. 9 samples of raw milk were examined for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli, and were negative.

34 samples of school milk (Pasteurised) were all satisfactory.

A summary of the bacteriological findings is given in the tables following.

7 samples on arrival at the laboratory had to be discarded (test void) because of fluctuating temperatures. 66 samples were purchased from vending machines, of which 11 were of unsatisfactory keeping quality.

39 samples of raw milk were examined for the presence of Brucella; 11 showed a positive ring test, and 1 was positive following culture. 6 cultures were overgrown with organisms, and 1 biological result was positive. This was notified to the farmer and the Rural District Council concerned.

The Brucella abortus is the cause of contagious abortion in cattle and of undulant fever in man; it is widespread among dairy stock in the country, and, as a result, the specific organism is not infrequently found in milk, and the disease may be conveyed to man by the infected milk. Though relatively few human cases have until recently been reported in this country, the number detected appears to be on the increase.

Table A. Heat treated milk.

Designation	Samples	Void	Keeping Quality		Heat Treatment		Turbidity
			Pass	%	Pass	%	
Pasteurised	102	4	92	94	102	100	
Pasteurised (School)	34		32	94	33	97	
Pasteurised Homogenised	11		11	100	11	100	
Pasteurised Homogenised (Vending machines)	40	1	35	90	40	100	
Pasteurised (Channel Islands)	1		1	100	1	100	
Sterilised	4						4
Total	192	5	171	93	187	99	4

Table B. Untreated milk

Designation	Samples	Void	Keeping quality			T.B.	Anti-biotics	Brucella						
								Ring	Culture			Biol.		
			S	U	%									
Channel Islands	4		3	1	75	3	-	2	1	1	-	-	-	1
Untreated	9		7	2	77	2		5	3	1	2	2	-	-
Untreated (Vending machines)	26	2	17	7	71	4		14	3	9	6	4	-	-
Total	39	2	27	10	73	9		21	7	11	8	6	1	1

O - Overgrown with other organisms
D - Guinea pig died from other causes
E - Equivocal

SAMPLING AND EXAMINATION OF FOOD

Chemical examination

When an article of food has been purchased, and the procedures set out in Section 91 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, have been observed, the sample is said to be formal. This involves the separation of the sample into three parts, each of which has to be labelled and sealed. To do this with every sample would take considerable time and entail a great deal of work. Time, and labour also, would be spent on many samples on which proceedings would not be taken, since the great majority are found to be genuine. The purchase, moreover, of a formal sample is relatively expensive, because enough of each article must be bought to allow it to be divided into three portions. For these reasons, many samples are bought without compliance with the full requirements of the Food and Drugs Act, and are submitted to the Public Analyst; these are known as test or informal samples. If the result of analysis of such a test sample be unsatisfactory, then the food concerned would be formally sampled to obtain evidence acceptable in a court of law.

301 samples were purchased or taken during the year (283 during 1967) and analysed by the Public Analyst for the Borough as follows:-

Informal samples of milk	65
Formal samples of milk	2
Informal samples of food	201
Informal samples of ice-cream	14
Informal samples of drugs or medicine	19
	<hr/>
	301

Other samples:-

Honey filter cloths	1
Potable water	20
Baths water	16
Dykes	2

Number of visits and revisits 427

Examination by the Public Analyst:

Milk

Formal samples

Channel Islands:

(Contained 8.6% extraneous water (303) 1

Untreated:

Genuine 1

Informal samples

Heat treated:

Genuine 36

Untreated:

Genuine	16
Contained 0.1% extraneous water (114)	1
Contained 1.8% extraneous water (234)	1
Contained 6.0% extraneous water (301)	1

Channel Islands:

Genuine	9
Contained 13.6% extraneous water (300)	1
	<hr/> 67

Of the milk samples purchased, 5 were found to be adulterated or otherwise giving rise to irregularity as compared with 3 in 1967.

92% were genuine as compared with 97% in 1967.

Four samples showed figures for solids-not-fat below the presumptive limit of 8.5% for solids-not-fat fixed by the Sale of Milk Regulations, 1939, but were adjudged genuine on the Hortvet Freezing Point Test.

<u>No.</u>	<u>Fat %</u>	<u>S.N.F.%</u>	<u>F.P. (Hortvet) °C</u>
77	4.00	8.30	0.539
205	4.30	8.35	0.538
233	3.00	8.30	0.535
270	3.90	8.25	0.538

Other food

	<u>Genuine</u>	<u>Not Genuine</u>
Baby food	4	1
Beverages	4	1
Bread and flour confectionery	8	1
Cereals and vegetables	3	
Condiments	6	
Cooking oil	3	
Dairy produce	18	1
Drugs and medicines	18	1
Fish products	3	3
Flavouring	1	
Fruit	2	
Herbal products	1	
Ice-cream	14	
Intoxicants	6	
Margarine	4	
Meat pies etc. (before 31st May)	12	
Meat pies etc. (after 31st May)	26	10
Meat products	13	4
Poultry products	3	
Preserves etc.	8	3
Sauce	1	
Sausage rolls (after 31st May)	4	
Sausages	11	8
Soft drinks	13	1

	<u>Genuine</u>	<u>Not Genuine</u>
Soup	2	
Spread	3	
Sugar confectionery	1	
Sweetener	3	
Table sweets	5	
	<hr/> 200	<hr/> 34

Action taken

114. A carton of milk purchased from a vending machine showed the presence of 0.1% extraneous water. The vendor was cautioned and a later sample (138) was genuine.
234. A carton of milk contained 1.8% extraneous water. The vendor was cautioned and a repeat sample (298) was genuine.
301. An informal sample of farm bottled untreated milk contained 6.0% extraneous water. A formal sample was taken the following day and was genuine. The farmer was cautioned.
300. An informal sample of Jersey milk contained 13.6% extraneous water and a formal sample of similar milk the following day contained 8.6% extraneous water. Proceedings were instituted in the magistrates court, the farmer pleaded guilty and was fined £10 with 5 guineas costs.
13. An 8 oz. can of skinless hot dog sausages consisted of 42% brine. The words "packed in brine" should have appeared on the label in close proximity to the name of the product and this omission was called to the attention of the packer. The words now appear on all new productions.
27. A complaint was received that a jar of imported jam contained a fly when opened. On examination, the fly proved to be a muscoid measuring $7\frac{1}{2}$ m.m. in length and weighing 22 milligram. This type of fly is usually of swarming habit and is not a fly of infestation. The importers were notified and made immediate investigations.
37. A 2 oz. tin of fillets of anchovies contained 550 parts/million of iron. A further sample, when examined, contained 200 parts/million of iron, and the sample had a slight metallic after taste. These samples were examined following a complaint by a customer to the shop stating that the fish tasted strongly metallic. Iron is not normally considered a serious contaminant of food but it rarely exceeds 10 parts per million in fish. The strong metallic flavour is probably brought out by the high salt content of anchovy. The packers were notified, who, in turn, contacted their overseas suppliers. No other stock was available at the shop and it was not their intention to reorder any.
54. This was a similar sample to No.13 above regarding the addition of the words "packed in brine" to a can of sausages. The packers have been informed and new labels have been prepared.

60. A complaint was received regarding a bottle of herbal medicine stated to bear a misleading label in as much as it contained the words "12 herbs" and the complainant could find only 8. When examined, it was found that 9 of the ingredients were of vegetable origin, one of animal and three of mineral. The inclusion, however, of mineral ingredients in herbal remedies is not unusual and, therefore, the label is not likely to be regarded as a case of misleading representation.
86. A jar of orange marmalade showed minor mineral constituents present equivalent to only 17% orange and was slightly low in orange content. The manufacturer was notified.
89. A sample purchased as potted beef consisted of meat paste. The vendor was interviewed and correct labels were shown for future sales.
90. As sample 89 but applying to salmon paste sold as potted salmon.
94. Pork sausage with 66% meat contained preservative without a declaration. The vendor was interviewed and a notice is now displayed.
99. A packet of margarine showed a vitamin A content of 650 I.U./oz. instead of the required 760 I.U's. The manufacturers were communicated with and a further sample (No.137) was genuine.
122. Weights and Measures referred a bottle of soft drinks suggesting that the description was wrong. The description was satisfactory but the lettering size did not accord with the size requirements. This was brought to the attention of the firm and new labels have been prepared.
130. A complaint was received that a small can of baby food had a very foul taste. When examined, the can contained 0.31% hydrocarbon oil or grease, rendering the contents unpalatable, and contravening the Mineral Hydrocarbons in Food Regulations. The manufacturers were notified and all remaining stocks were withdrawn.
157. A meat and potato pie contained 7.2% meat instead of the 12.5% required. The baker was notified.
163. A jar of dry coffee extract contained 0.8% caffeine and was stated to be caffeine free. The packers were informed, who made immediate enquiries from the Brazilian suppliers.
184. A meat and potato pie contained 7.5% meat. The baker was notified.
201. A sample of pork sausage contained 59.5% meat instead of the recommended 65%. The manufacturer was cautioned.
212. A meat and potato pie contained 9.5% meat. The baker was notified.
213. A sample of potted meat contained 45% meat instead of the required 95%. The manufacturer was cautioned.

218. A meat and potato pie contained 8.5% meat. The baker was notified.
232. A carton of flavoured milk drink did not list the ingredients of the 'flavouring syrup' used. The vendor was notified and fresh labels ordered.
235. A blackcurrant pie purchased in Heysham by a local resident contained a tightly wound spiral of tinplate weighing 0.21 gramme probably derived from a food can. The vendor was prosecuted, found guilty, and the pie manufacturer was then proved guilty and fined £10 with £4/10/- costs.
237. A meat and potato pie contained 11.0% meat. The baker was notified.
238. A sample of potted beef contained 72% meat instead of the required 95%. The manufacturers were notified and they readily agreed to substitute fresh labels.
244. A meat and potato pie contained 5.5% meat. The baker was cautioned.
245. A meat and potato pie contained 7.6% meat. These pies had been invoiced as "potato and meat pies" and the vendor was notified.
246. Beef sausages contained preservatives but no notice stating that preservative was used was displayed in the shop. The vendor was cautioned.
251. A sample of sleeping tablets showed that both the salicylamide and paracetamol of which the tablets were composed are analgesic drugs rather than sedatives, and their central nervous action is too small to justify the name "sleeping tablets". The manufacturer was notified.
252. Beef sausage meat contained preservative without a declaration. The vendor was notified.
273. Beef sausage contained preservative without declaration. The vendor was cautioned.
286. A meat and potato pie contained 11.4% meat. The vendor was cautioned.
287. Potted beef contained 81.5% as compared with the recommended 96%. The manufacturers are now taking steps to prevent a recurrence.
289. A jar of honey contained 3 milligrams of debris, including rubber powder and textile fibres. The producers were interviewed. A further sample was genuine.
291. A meat and potato pie contained 11.5% meat. The vendor was cautioned.
296. A meat and potato pie contained 7.1% meat. The vendor was cautioned.

319. A pie ordered as "meat and potato pie" had a meat content of 10.5%. The vendor was interviewed and the pies have been renamed "potato and meat pies".

322. Beef sausage contained preservative without declaration. The vendor was cautioned.

The following complaints were also dealt with by the Department.

C.251. A complaint was received regarding the presence of mould in a pork pie. Full investigations were made and the manufacturers were visited and cautioned.

C. 71. A packet of rusks was infested with tribolium beetle and grubs, thus indicating an infestation of recent origin. The manufacturers were notified.

C.107. A bottle of milk when examined showed seeds clinging to the inner side and bottom. This was sent to the dairy for inspection and report.

C.101. A complaint regarding the presence of mould in a meat pie was referred to the local bakery, and after interview by the manager, the complainant was satisfied.

C.239. A can of peas contained a small garden beetle. This was referred to the canners and the complainant was seen by the canners representative.

ICE-CREAM

Bacteriological examinations

141 samples of ice-cream were examined as follows:-

Methylene Blue Reductase Test (with provisional gradings):

Grade 1	116
Grade 2	8
Grade 3	8
Grade 4	1
Test void	Nil
Repeat samples	8

In the tables that follow are given the results of bacteriological and chemical analyses:

<u>Type</u>	<u>No. of samples</u>	<u>Provisional Gradings</u>			
		<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>
Bulk	40	37	-	2	1
Pre-packed	74	63	8	3	-
Soft	14	12	-	2	-
Complete Cold Mix	5	4	-	1	-
Total	133	116	8	8	1

The figures in the foregoing tables and the tables that follow do not include 'repeat' samples. By repeat samples is meant (8 - 1968) samples taken at various stages of manufacture and storage after receipt of an unsatisfactory laboratory report on a particular sample. Such repeat sampling is of help to traders. Manufacturers are, without exception, very co-operative, and are supplied with copies of all reports on their products. If a sample is graded 2, they are quite disappointed, (although 2 is, in fact, satisfactory), and are alarmed at an odd 3 or 4 grading.

4 repeat samples of locally made ice-cream, and 4 'imported' were taken.

<u>Type</u>	<u>% Graded 1 or 2</u>				
	<u>1968</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1965</u>	<u>1948</u>
Bulk	92.5	90.5	85.4	90.0	51.7
Pre-packed	95.9	100.0	98.9	98.4	72.0
Soft	85.7	84.2	91.4	88.9	-
Complete Cold Mix	80.0	62.5	100.0	100.0	41.3

Comparative figures:

<u>Year</u>	<u>% Graded 1 or 2</u>
1949	60.0
1964	92.6
1965	95.7
1966	94.0
1967	93.3
1968	93.2

One sample was graded '4' as compared with 5 in 1967 and 21.1% in 1949.

	<u>Provisional Grade</u>				<u>% Graded 1 or 2</u>		
	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>1968</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1949</u>
Local	50	-	4	1	90.9	86.9	51.9
'Imported'	66	8	4	-	94.8	98.9	67.2
Total	116	8	8	1	93.2	93.3	60.0

The total number of samples examined shows a decrease of 38 over 1967.

Soft serve machines

This is a machine into which an ice-cream mix is whipped and frozen rapidly so that, although the temperature is very much reduced, the ice-cream remains partially fluid. The ice-cream is fresh and is dispensed through a nozzle.

Mixes are of three types:-

1. Pasteurised in cans or polythene bags; temperature control 45°F until converted into ice-cream.
2. Sterilised liquid mix in sealed air tight containers; no temperature control whilst sealed.
3. Complete cold mix powder reconstituted with water.

Bacteriological results (included in figures above)

Grade 1	12
Grade 3	<u>2</u>
	14

% in Grade 1 or 2 85.7 (1967 - 84.2)

Composition

14 samples were analysed by the Public Analyst; all were satisfactory and 7 were of local manufacture. (See also Food and Drugs sampling ante page 46)

Average composition %

	<u>Fats</u>	<u>Solids</u>
Local	8.2	34.6
'Imported'	9.5	34.6

<u>Sample No.</u>	<u>Fat %</u>	<u>Solids %</u>
1	9.2	37.2
2	8.8	35.2
3	7.7	33.8
4	10.6	36.3
5	6.8	31.0
6	5.3	34.6
7	9.4	31.5
8	9.4	32.0
9	12.4	28.2
10	10.9	37.4
11	7.4	33.2
12	11.4	39.1
13	5.8	31.5
14	11.4	43.5
Average	9.0	34.6

Visits

Dealers premises	136
Manufacturers premises	65
Storage premises	3
Proposed premises	Nil
Cinemas	Nil
Street traders	29
Sampling	196
Informal notices	Nil

Registered premises

	<u>1967</u>	<u>Ceased</u>	<u>New</u>	1968
Manufacture, storage, sale	2	-	-	2
Manufacture, storage	2	-	-	2
Manufacture, sale	6	-	-	6
Manufacture	1	-	-	1
Storage and sale	6	1	-	5
Storage	4	1	-	3
Sale	72	2	-	70
Sale of pre-packed (by agreement)	137	4	2	135
	230	8	2	224

During the year, 8 premises ceased to be used for ice-cream purposes and the certificates of registration were withdrawn. The Council approved the transfer of 7 certificates, and 2 new registrations were approved.

ICE LOLLIES

The Heat Treatment Regulations exempt from the heat treatment requirements water ices or ice lollies with a pH value of 4.5 or less; pH value is an indication of acidity. There would appear to be three distinct types of ice lollies on the market:-

- (a) brands with very low pH value - no heat treatment required.
- (b) brands with an ice-cream mix as one of the ingredients - heat treatment required.
- (c) brands consisting of a core of ice-cream surrounded by a coating of water ice, the ice-cream portion requires heat treatment but the acid water ice does not.

Samples taken and found satisfactory

Locally manufactured

Sold unwrapped	Nil
Pre-packed	Nil

'Imported'

Pre-packed	32
Ice lollies	11
Ice-cream lollies	21

Tests

(a) pH value	11
(b) Methylene Blue	21
	<hr/>
	32

LIQUID EGG

The Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations, 1963 require the pasteurisation of liquid egg to be used in food intended for sale for human consumption, other than egg broken out on the food manufacturers premises and used within 24 hours. The Schedules prescribe the Alpha-Amylase test for pasteurisation.

No liquid egg is pasteurised in the Borough but it is used in food manufacture.

Visits to premises	53
Samples taken	40

Satisfactory	38
Unsatisfactory	2

Salmonellae absent in all samples.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

Visits

Town slaughterhouses	1392
Heysham Harbour	42
Butchers shops	173
Other food shops	434

Animals inspected

	<u>Town</u>	<u>Heysham</u>	<u>Total</u>
Beasts (ex.cows)	3814	91	3905
Cows	47		47
Calves	21		21
Sheep and lambs	26,858		26,858
Pigs	2,976		2,976
	<hr/> 33,716	<hr/> 91	<hr/> 33,807

Five year comparison

<u>Town</u>	<u>1968</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1965</u>	<u>1950</u>
Beasts	3,814	4,439	3,804	3,663	1,651
Cows	47	147	103	97	687
Calves	21	29	36	31	1,247
Sheep	26,858	29,324	25,374	24,397	9,756
Pigs	2,976	2,695	4,046	3,347	-

Heysham Harbour

Beasts	91	123	53	42	115
Sheep				4	630
Pigs				2	
Totals	<hr/> 33,807	<hr/> 36,757	<hr/> 33,416	<hr/> 31,583	<hr/> 14,086

Meat condemned (including Heysham Harbour)

Cattle

Other diseases than tuberculosis:

* Carcase (oedema)	2
* Carcase (fever)	4
* Carcase (gangrene)	1
* Carcase (septicaemia)	1
Part carcase (bruising)	2
Part carcase (decomposition)	1
Livers (cirrhosis) lbs.	18,966
Livers (cirrhosis)	13
Livers (abscesses)	267
Livers (flukes)	99
Lungs (pleurisy) sets	23
Lungs (pneumonia) sets	8

Lungs (abscesses) sets	2
Lungs (congestion) sets	5
Head (bruised)	2
Head and tongue (actinomycosis)	5
Head and tongue (abscesses)	9
Tongue (abscesses)	3
Heart (cysticercus bovis)	1
Heart (pericarditis)	24
Heart (fever)	3
Spleens (hyperaemia)	37
Spleens (peritonitis)	11
Skirt (cysticercus bovis)	1
Skirt (peritonitis)	22
Skirt (fever)	2
Tails (bruising)	14
Tails (decomposition)	2
Beef (bruised) lbs.	1,348
Beef (macerated) lbs.	10
Beef (abscesses)	35
Beef (bone taint)	475
Fat (decomposition)	10

Calves

* Carcase (umbilical pyaemia)	1
Carcase (emaciation)	1
Kidneys (fibro plastic nephritis)	2
Plucks (abscesses)	3

Sheep

* Carcase (oedema)	1
Carcase (emaciation)	20
Carcase (bruising)	1
Carcase (fever)	2
Carcase (lamb) (emaciation)	8
Carcase (lamb) (cysts)	1
Carcase (fibrositis)	1
Carcase (pneumonia)	1
Pluck (parasites)	21
Liver (abscesses)	3
Liver (flukes)	4,675
Liver (cysts)	4
Lamb leg (bruised) lbs.	6
Mutton (bruised) lbs.	54

Pigs

Tuberculosis:	
Heads	1

Other diseases:

* Carcase (abscesses)	1
Head (bruised)	1
Pluck (pneumonia)	1
Pluck (pleurisy)	2
Pluck (cirrhosis)	48
Pluck (ascaris)	8
Liver (cirrhosis)	12
Stomach (peritonitis)	1
Leg (injuries) lbs.	11
Pork (bruised) lbs.	66

* Carcase and all offal in each case.

Carcases inspected and condemned

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known)	3,905	47	21	26,858	2,976
Number inspected	3,905	47	21	26,858	2,976
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci: Whole carcases condemned	8		2	35	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1,960		5	4,682	59
Percentage of the number affected with diseases other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci	49.8		33.3	17.7	2.0
Tuberculosis only: Whole carcases condemned	-		-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-		-	-	1
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	-		-	-	0.03
Cysticercosis: Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1		-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-		-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-		-	-	-

Unsound food (other than carcass meat) surrendered:

<u>Meat</u>	<u>lbs.</u>
Meat	74
Pie meat	37
Bacon	10

Meat (canned)

Veal, jellied	18
Pork loin	170
Pork, chopped	75
Pork shoulder	177
Livers	100
Corned beef	148
Ham, pressed	423
Ham, cured	1,574
Tongue, Ox	240

Cooked meat and meat products

Ham, boiled	65
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Poultry

Chicken	10
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Fish

Cod fillets	28
Haddock fillets	42
Fish fillets	102
Crab	14
Shrimps	8

Fruit

Peaches	50
Tomatoes	764
Apples	348
Pineapple	20
Grapefruit	62
Grapefruit juice	9
Fruit	368
Gooseberries	39
Pears	732
Cherries	14
Currants	7

Vegetables

Beans	13
Potatoes	280
Carrots	22
Mixed	143

Other food

Liquid egg	112
Cereals	18
Soup	12
Apricot pie filling	7
Rice	36
Jam	2
Cakes	12
Ice-cream	13
Ice lollies	2
Biscuits	9
Cheese	240

Unsound food surrendered or condemned:

	<u>Tons</u>	<u>Cwts.</u>	<u>lbs.</u>
1. Meat at slaughterhouses	20	6	92
2. Meat at wholesale premises	Nil		
3. Meat at retail shops		1	9
4. Cooked meat and meat products			65
5. Canned meats	1	6	13
6. Fish		1	82
7. Fruit and vegetables	1	5	71
8. Other foods		4	25
	23	6	21

Disposal of condemned meat

Carcase beef is collected by a recognised dealer in animal feeding stuffs, and in accordance with 1960 regulations, is transported in vehicles appropriately locked and marked.

Beef livers which are found tubercle free and not affected with any septic condition are collected for pharmaceutical purposes. The remainder of the condemned meat and offal is regularly collected by a contractor and treated at a fertiliser processing plant.

Poultry inspection

Number of poultry processing premises (operated from November)	1
Number of visits	31
Birds processed:-	
Turkeys	12
Hens	935
Broilers	<u>10,761</u>
Total	11,708

% of birds rejected	Not available
Weight of poultry condemned	Nil

Comments: This plant came into partial operation on the 26th November; comment will be reserved until next year.

LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL (GENERAL POWERS) ACT, 1951

This Act requires the registration of all persons who sell, offer or expose for sale any food from a vehicle, basket, pail, tray, or other receptacle, and for the registration of all premises used as storage accommodation for such food.

Number of hawkers on register	44
Number of hawkers premises on register	8
(Register under revision)	
Number of visits	19

MERCHANDISE MARKS ACT, 1926

Number of visits	11
Number of verbal notices	Nil

LABELLING OF FOOD ORDER, 1953

Number of visits	191
Number of verbal warnings	8

For details of discrepancies found in the labels attached to food, etc., see Food and Drugs (Report on samples ante pages 47/50).

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF FOOD

Food examined:

Shell-fish	34
Shrimps	36
Dairy cream	3
Flour confectionery	4
Meat products	5

Other examinations:

Sewer swabs	6
Other swabs	11
Dykes	2
Number of visits	47

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Staff:

Cleansing Superintendent	T.E.Gore, M.Inst.P.C.
Assistant Cleansing Superintendent	G.Middlebrough, A.M.Inst.P.C.
Clerical staff	2
Inspectors	2
Manual staff:	
Winter	89
Summer	112

Refuse collection:

Employees of the refuse collection service supported by the National Union of General and Municipal Workers, made application for the introduction of a bonus incentive scheme into the refuse collection section of the department.

The Health and Housing Committee subsequently authorised the preparation of a draft report to this effect.

During the latter part of the year, several meetings between employees, trade unions and management, revealed that men and unions were favourably impressed with details of the scheme and the possibility of introducing a bonus incentive scheme on the 1st April, 1969 seemed likely.

Labour:

There has been a 53% turnover in labour during the year, slightly less than last year's figure of 60%, which was the worst on record. Further analysis revealed that 22% of the refuse collectors have more than 5 years service, with 53% having less than 2 years service. These figures, once again, emphasise the fact that there is a low basic wage for which refuse collectors must work in all weather conditions to complete the daily task.

Additional collections of refuse:

At present the department provides a once weekly collection of house and trade refuse which is a charge against the General Rate Fund.

Any additional collections of refuse, i.e. more than once weekly are charged for at the rate of 1/- per bin or equivalent capacity container, per week.

With the introduction of the new charges on 1st April, 1968, business and commercial premises were at first opposed to the increase, but it is pleasing to report that the majority of trade premises now take full advantage of the additional service with the result that income has increased from £350 per annum to a present £1,200.

Special collections:

Better living conditions have encouraged people to replace articles of domestic use more regularly, and during the year, because of increased quantities of discarded furniture and household effects, some 2,100 requests for this service were received and dealt with.

Transport:

At present the department operates and maintains a fleet of 20 vehicles of a specialist nature, and four pedestrian controlled trucks. During the year, two replacement refuse collection vehicles were received and two Morris 6 cwt. vans renewed.

Public conveniences:

Vandalism in toilets is still our main source of worry. Attendants stock cupboards have been broken into, and signs pulled off the exterior of buildings. Cisterns are continually being tampered with, causing flooding and extra work for harassed attendants.

In the Central toilets, all urinal stalls have been damaged and the cost for replacing twenty dividing partitions is estimated at £200.

Administration:

Mr.G.Middlebrough attended a full time course instruction in Work Study at the John Dalton College of Technology, Manchester.

Statistics:

	<u>Number of loads</u>	<u>Tons</u>	<u>Cwts.</u>	<u>Qrs.</u>			
1. <u>Refuse Collection</u>							
Domestic and Trade refuse	7,890	13,274	11	1			
Offal and Kitchen Waste	610	160	4	-			
	8,500	13,434	15	1			
2. <u>Refuse Disposal</u>							
Controlled Tip	6,684	12,723	13	3			
Paper Baling Plant	1,206	550	17	2			
Waste Food Plant	610	160	4	-			
	8,500	13,434	15	1			
3. <u>Refuse Disposal Sales</u>							
	<u>Tons</u>	<u>Cwts.</u>	<u>Qrs.</u>	<u>£.</u>	<u>s.</u>	<u>d.</u>	
Waste Paper	291	15	3	875.	7.	3.	
Unprocessed Offal	142	13	-	356.	12.	6.	
Scrap metal, rags, etc.	16	8	-	1,390.	8.	9.	
	450	16	3	£2,622.	8.	6.	

4. General

Number of dust bins or equivalent capacity containers emptied	22,000
Number of dust bins or equivalent containers emptied during season	26,000
Number of special collections (bulky furniture etc.)	2,100
Total dust bin sales for the year	842

5. Staff

Table showing the sickness and absence rates expressed as a percentage of the total working days for the last five years.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Yearly average</u>	<u>Monthly Rate</u>	
		<u>Highest</u>	<u>Lowest</u>
1968	6.32%	3.70%	10.78%
1967	7.80%	5.11%	10.42%
1966	5.46%	2.64%	9.30%
1965	4.13%	1.34%	6.01%
1964	5.09%	1.87 %	7.65%

Vehicle strength:

<u>Section</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Description</u>
<u>Refuse Collection</u>	4	'Dual-Tip' - 18 cu.yd.capacity
	1	" 25 cu.yd.capacity
	3	Ram Compression - 7/20 cu.yd. capacity
	1	Screw Impellor - 16/50 cu.yd. capacity
	2	Large Vans - 20 cu.yd. capacity
<u>Street Cleansing</u>	2	Gully emptiers
	2	Suction Sweepers
	1	'Dual-Tip' - 18 cu.yd. capacity
	4	Electric Trucks (pedestrian controlled)
<u>Administration/Maintenance</u>	3	6 cwt. Vans
	23	

Public Conveniences:

Permanent buildings

<u>Situation</u>	<u>Number</u>
Marine Road/Promenade	6
Parks or Open Spaces	5
Car Parks/Bus Terminals	4
Other Sites	2
<u>Temporary buildings</u>	17
Coach Park	1

SWIMMING BATHS

The magnificent open air swimming pool known as the 'Super Swimming Stadium', is municipally owned and controlled. Although opened in 1936, the design was many years ahead of its time and, even today, this vast stadium is considered very up-to-date.

Although not the largest swimming pool, it is thought to be the longest pool in Europe, with a maximum length of 396 feet. The width is 110 feet. The depth of the water graduates from nil to 15 feet in the diving pit, and boards for diving are provided at 1, 3, 5 and 10 metres. The main feature is that conditions are ideal for young children and non-swimmers in that, apart from the normal slope from shallow to deep, the pool also slopes across, thus giving a shore to the pool which runs the full length.

Seating accommodation is provided for some 2,500 spectators, but the maximum attendance has been recorded at 7,500 spectators at one event.

1 $\frac{1}{4}$ million gallons of sea water are drawn from Morecambe Bay to fill the pool. This is chemically treated and filtered to ensure that sterile conditions exist for the average figure of 200,000 bathers, etc. who attend the stadium between May and September each year.

The filtration and sterilisation equipment is of a high standard and is in constant use during the bathing season. The new 'v' notch chlorinator, soda and alum dosing equipment and three large sand filters are capable of treating the 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ million gallons of sea water every 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ hours, so that in a normal day the pool can be 'turned over' at least three times. The large cascade situated in the pool also assists with aeration.

The swimming stadium is the scene of many events apart from swimming and sun bathing. Each Tuesday afternoon there is a 'Competition Time' when comedy and novelty contests are held. Wednesday afternoons see the famous 'Miss Great Britain National Bathing Beauty Contest' taking place, and on various Saturday afternoons, many Galas are held consisting of races, water polo matches etc. at all levels from Club to International standard. Other events held range from fashion shows, aqua shows etc.

There is also a cafeteria, both for patrons at the stadium and for use by the general public.

Although the stadium is only open for swimming during May to September, this only forms part of the Baths Department. Hot showers for men and ladies are open all the year round and are proving extremely popular.

To complete the picture, a small establishment laundry is situated in the stadium to deal with all towels, costumes and trunks which, after hire by the public, must be washed and sterilised before being re-issued.

The Baths and Marineland Manager is also the Meteorological Officer for the town, and the stadium is a recognised meteorological station providing observations on current weather conditions and recording such information. Records at the stadium date back to 1896.

Examination of water:

Chemical

Number of samples 16 (Satisfactory)

Bacteriological

84 bacteriological analyses of the bath water (inlet, pool centre and outlet) were made as follows:-

Satisfactory	83	
Not examined	1	
% satisfactory	100	(1967 - 91%)

Number of visits 47

A private swimming bath attached to a holiday camp was visited regularly during the season. The water here was continuously and efficiently treated, but the bath is not of course on the same scale as the municipal bath.

Number of visits	27
Number of samples taken	39
Wholly satisfactory	82% (1967 - 61%)

<u>Ref.No.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Bact.</u> <u>Colonies</u>	<u>Col.Bac.</u> <u>/100 c.c.</u>	<u>Plate Count</u> <u>Orgs./ml.</u>	<u>Location</u>
856	25 July	Nil	Nil	0	Inlet
857	25 July	Nil	Nil	0	Pool Centre
858	25 July	Nil	Nil	2	Outlet
904	1 Aug.	Nil	Nil	0	Inlet
905	1 Aug.	Nil	Nil	0	Pool Centre
906	1 Aug.	Nil	Nil	0	Outlet

Number of samples from paddling pools examined Nil

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT

Meteorological work continued as in previous years with readings being taken at 10.00 hours and 18.00 hours daily.

Daily and weekly readings are sent to the local newspapers, 'Lancashire Evening Post', magazines and other interested parties. Numerous enquiries are dealt with both from prospective holiday-makers and residents. The Manchester Weather Centre is notified several times a day throughout the year of prevailing weather conditions. Evening code telegrams are submitted to the Air Ministry and monthly reports submitted to the Meteorological Office. Daily readings are exhibited in the Information Bureau on the Promenade during the holiday season.

1968 in Morecambe and Heysham will be remembered as a good year, when the sun shone throughout the summer and the amount of rain falling was negligible, whilst other parts of the country suffered severe weather conditions, Morecambe and Heysham remained unaffected.

These thoughts will be supported by the vital statistics of 1968, i.e. total sunshine well above the ten year average, maximum temperatures slightly above average and incredibly, considering the amount of flooding throughout the country, rainfall slightly below average.

The total sunshine recorded, 1,444 hours 24 minutes, was the highest since 1965 (1,500 hours 48 minutes). The sun shone on 284 days and the highest for one day was 16 hours 12 minutes on the 6th July. This equals the record for sun in one day which was recorded in June of 1935, 1937 and 1957. As usual, June was the month of most sun, with a total of 220 hours 12 minutes, and this year January 'turned out bottom of the league' with only 36 hours 30 minutes of sun.

The warmest day was the 30th June when the temperature reached 79°F. and the coldest day of the year was the 10th January when the minimum temperature recorded was only 21°F.

A total of 39.78 inches of rain fell on 174 days during 1968, the lowest yearly total since 1964 (35.31 inches). The number of days upon which it rained was in fact the lowest since 1957 (which had 160 wet days). September had the most rain with 6.58 inches, and February was the best month with only 1.41 inches which is only half of the average fall for February. December must also be mentioned, as the figure of 1.52 inches is only a third of its average rainfall.

Whilst the report deals with the figures of the full year, of extreme importance in a resort such as Morecambe and Heysham, are the statistics affecting the holiday trade during the period May to September. In 1968 these were good in every respect. There was less rain and more sun. 19.20 inches of rain, 850 hours 24 minutes sun, against the 1967 figures of 23.85 inches of rain and 815 hours 54 minutes of sun. During this period the sun shone on 143 days, as against 135 in 1967, and the rain fell on only 70 days of the 153 days period, as against 89 days in 1967. One most important point is that of the 19.20 inches of rain falling in 1968 between May and September, only 5.57 inches of that fell between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.

There was a predominance of North East winds during the year, 58 from that direction, and next was South East with 45.

As a footnote to this report, a check of our records has revealed that in the period 1896 to 1931, there were 6,920 days of rain, showing a total fall of 1,444.49 inches as against the period 1932 to 1967 with only 6,460 wet days, giving a total rainfall of 1,377.58 inches.

G.D.SMITH

Meteorological Officer.

RAINFALL (in inches and hundredths)

	Total amount inches	Days of rain .01 ins. or more	Greatest fall in 24 hours	Date	Monthly average 1958 - 1967
January	3.91	24	.73	13th	3.27
February	1.41	9	.59	5th	2.64
March	3.65	16	.84	23rd	2.07
April	2.31	14	.55	18th	2.77
May	2.45	19	.59	25th	3.02
June	4.80	13	1.48	22nd	2.89
July	3.17	11	1.61	2nd	3.26
August	2.20	9	1.28	19th	4.38
September	6.58	17	.67	22nd	4.01
October	5.70	18	1.08	31st	4.47
November	2.08	11	.65	23rd	3.63
December	1.52	13	.29	18th	4.44
	39.78	174	1.61	2nd July	40.95

Notes: Highest rainfall in 24 hours ever recorded 3.72 inches on 15th August, 1916. 2.52 inches fell on the 9th October, 1941.

Highest yearly rainfall - 55.73 inches in 1928.

Lowest yearly rainfall - 27.07 inches in 1941.

Highest monthly rainfall ever recorded 11.03 inches in October, 1967.

Lowest monthly rainfall ever recorded, .05 inches in February, 1922.

BAROMETRIC PRESSURE (millibars)

	Mean of the month	Highest reading	Date	Lowest reading	Date	Average mean 1958 - 67
January	1013.34	1031.1	22nd	994.2	17th	1015.79
February	1011.79	1033.1	27th	980.0	6th	1014.30
March	1011.61	1029.5	4th	979.5	20th	1013.02
April	1013.30	1035.6	11th	994.9	28th & 29th	1012.15
May	1013.71	1029.9	29th	994.8	5th	1013.22
June	1013.90	1030.2	13th	993.0	23rd	1015.01
July	1019.08	1030.2	28th	1004.3	14th	1013.15
August	1015.33	1030.9	25th	995.8	13th	1014.70
September	1008.40	1026.0	7th	986.8	20th	1012.63
October	1011.29	1022.7	5th	992.3	31st	1010.04
November	1012.88	1022.3	16th	988.8	1st	1005.69
December	1009.58	1026.0	31st	979.2	17th	1003.92
	1012.85	1035.6	11th Apl.	979.2	17th Dec.	1011.96

SUNSHINE (Recorded by Campbell-Stokes Instrument)

	Total sunshine Hrs.Mins.		Greatest daily amount of sun Hrs.Mins.		Date	Days on which sun shone	Sun- less days	10 year average sunshine 1958-1967 Hrs.Mins.	
January	36	30	6	24	28th	15	16	55	12
February	96	30	9	30	25th	23	6	67	6
March	106	48	10	30	28th	26	5	108	18
April	192	36	13	0	12th	28	2	139	54
May	157	12	13	6	28th	29	2	186	18
June	220	12	15	48	14th	30	Nil	193	30
July	153	30	16	12	6th	27	4	164	12
August	187	36	13	42	11th	29	2	162	54
September	131	54	11	18	6th	28	2	131	24
October	50	54	6	12	6th	20	11	103	18
November	65	54	8	30	4th	17	13	54	54
December	44	48	6	30	26th	12	19	45	6
	1444	24	16	12	6th July	284	82	1412	6

Notes: 1968 average daily - 3 hours 54 minutes.
Record for one day - 16 hours 12 minutes, 29th June, 1935,
22nd June, 1937 and 19th June, 1957, and 6th July, 1968.

Highest yearly sunshine - 1999 hours 40 minutes in 1911.
Lowest yearly sunshine - 1241 hours 48 minutes in 1954.

SHADE TEMPERATURE OF

	Mean max.	Mean min.	High- est max.	Date	Low- est min.	Date	10 year average max. 1958-67
January	43.9	36.7	50	14th & 31st	21	10th	41.9
February	41.0	31.7	49	28th	26	24th	43.9
March	47.5	37.7	65	28th	28	9th	47.3
April	54.2	40.5	67	26th	29	5th & 8th	52.2
May	56.1	44.6	71	30th	37	4th	59.0
June	66.2	53.1	79	30th	47	9th	64.2
July	65.1	54.0	72	31st	48	6th & 7th	64.8
August	67.8	54.5	76	6th	47	19th	64.9
September	62.6	52.9	72	9th	46	18th	62.8
October	58.1	51.0	63	11th	41	8th	56.7
November	47.5	41.3	55	25th	31	4th	48.0
December	42.8	34.5	51	2nd	28	14th	43.7
	54.4	44.3	79	30th June	21	10th Jan.	54.0

Notes: Highest recorded temperatures 89°F on the 20th July, 1901,
29th July, 1948 and 6th June, 1950.

Lowest recorded temperature 8°F on the 26th January, 1945.

CLOUDWIND (Measured by Beaufort Scale)

Mean amount 0-8		Mean force of wind 0-12	Gale force 7 or over
January	6.38	2.77	1
February	5.79	1.93	-
March	6.00	2.84	1
April	5.33	2.46	-
May	6.29	2.67	-
June	5.46	2.56	-
July	6.32	2.35	2
August	5.58	3.00	-
September	5.60	2.73	-
October	6.84	2.51	-
November	6.06	2.26	-
December	6.00	1.96	-
5.97		2.50	4

WIND DIRECTION

	N	NNE	NE	ENE	E	ESE	SE	SSE	S	SSW	SW	WSW	W	WNW	NW	NNW
January	-	1	2	1	-	1	1	3	3	-	6	2	4	-	6	1
February	-	-	7	-	5	1	5	3	3	-	-	-	2	1	2	-
March	-	1	1	-	1	-	2	1	2	1	10	1	4	1	6	-
April	-	2	7	-	1	2	7	1	2	2	4	-	-	-	1	1
May	-	1	6	2	2	-	5	2	1	-	3	3	5	-	1	-
June	-	-	3	1	2	-	6	-	-	1	6	5	6	-	-	-
July	-	1	8	-	3	3	3	-	1	-	4	1	2	2	3	-
August	6	1	7	3	1	1	1	3	1	2	2	-	1	2	-	-
September	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	1	4	2	2	1	2	2	3	-
October	-	1	2	1	4	1	3	-	6	3	3	4	1	-	2	-
November	1	-	9	3	4	4	3	1	2	-	2	1	-	-	-	-
December	5	-	3	1	4	4	8	1	2	1	1	-	1	-	-	-
	13	10	58	13	29	20	45	16	27	12	43	18	28	8	24	2

